

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 16626 281054Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DLOS-09 IO-13 /085 W

-----112415 282006Z /66

R 281026Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4667

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, TH, VM

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE SINK ONE THAI FISHING BOAT, SEIZE ANOTHER

1. BANGKOK PRESS REPORTS THAT DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF JULY 24, A THAI TRAWLER FISHING ABOUT 30 MILES OFF COAST OF VIET-NAM WAS SHOT AT AND SUNK BY A VIETNAMESE GUNBOAT AND ANOTHER TRAWLER WITH CREW OF 18 CAPTURED AND TAKEN TO VIET-NAM. ALTHOUGH PRESS REPORTS ARE UNCLEAR, IT APPEARS THAT THREE THAI FISHERMEN WERE KILLED IN THE ATTACK ON THEIR VESSEL AND SOME 18 OTHERS WERE PICKED UP BY A FELLOW TRAWLER WHICH FLED THE SCENE WHEN THE VIETNAMESE GUNBOAT APPEARED BUT RETURNED TO RESCUE SURVIVORS.

2. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH MFA OFFICIAL WHO AGREED THAT INITIAL REPORTS OF INCIDENT ARE CONFUSING. MFA DID NOT AT PRESENT TIME, HOWEVER, PLAN TO ATTEMPT CONTACT WITH VIETNAMESE RE SEIZURE. MFA OFFICIAL SAID VIETNAMESE
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 16626 281054Z

PRESENTLY HAVE BETWEEN 15 AND 20 THAI FISHING VESSELS AND THEIR CREWS IN CUSTODY, AND THAI FISHERMEN KNOW THAT THEY RISK CAPTURE BY FISHING IN AREAS VIETNAMESE CONSIDER TO BE THEIR WATERS. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT THAI FISHERY ASSOCIATION IS AN INFLUENTIAL ORGANIZATION AND SAID THAT IT WAS AT THE ASSOCIATION'S INSISTANCE THAT THAI NAVAL VESSEL HMS PRASAE IS BEING ASSIGNED TO THE ANDAMAN SEA. (NOTE: HMS

PRASAE WILL DEPART SATAHIP AUGUST 1 FOR 40 DAYS DUTY IN THE ANDAMAN SEA OFF THE WEST COAST OF THE KRA ISTHMUS, ACCORDING TO RTG ANNOUNCEMENT, TO " HELP PROTECT THAI FISHING TRAWLERS FROM BEING HARASSED BY FOREIGN GUNBOATS." THE RTN SHIP'S PRESENCE IN THE ANDAMAN SEA IS ALSO TO BE AN EXPERIMENT IN POLICING THAI FISHING BOATS, PROVIDING THEM WITH GUIDANCE ON WATERS CLAIMED BY BURMA WHICH SHOULD BE AVOIDED. FISHERY ASSOCIATION HAS ALREADY SAID THAT 40- DAY PERIOD IS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR NEEDED PROTECTION AND HAS URGED RTN TO STATION WARSHIPS IN THE ANDAMAN SEA PERMANENTLY.) MFA OFFICIAL SAID BURMESE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATING A FISHERIES AGREEMENT AND OPINED THAT " MAYBE SOME DAY" THAILAND'S FISHING PROBLEMS CAN BE WORKED OUT THROUGH LOS CONFERENCE.
BURKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP DETENTION, FISHING BOATS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO16626
Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770271-0095
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770711/aaaaaiws.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: a8f5f662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1727790
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAMESE SINK ONE THAI FISHING BOAT, SEIZE ANOTHER
TAGS: EFIS, TH, VM
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Type: TE
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